

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Centennial Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

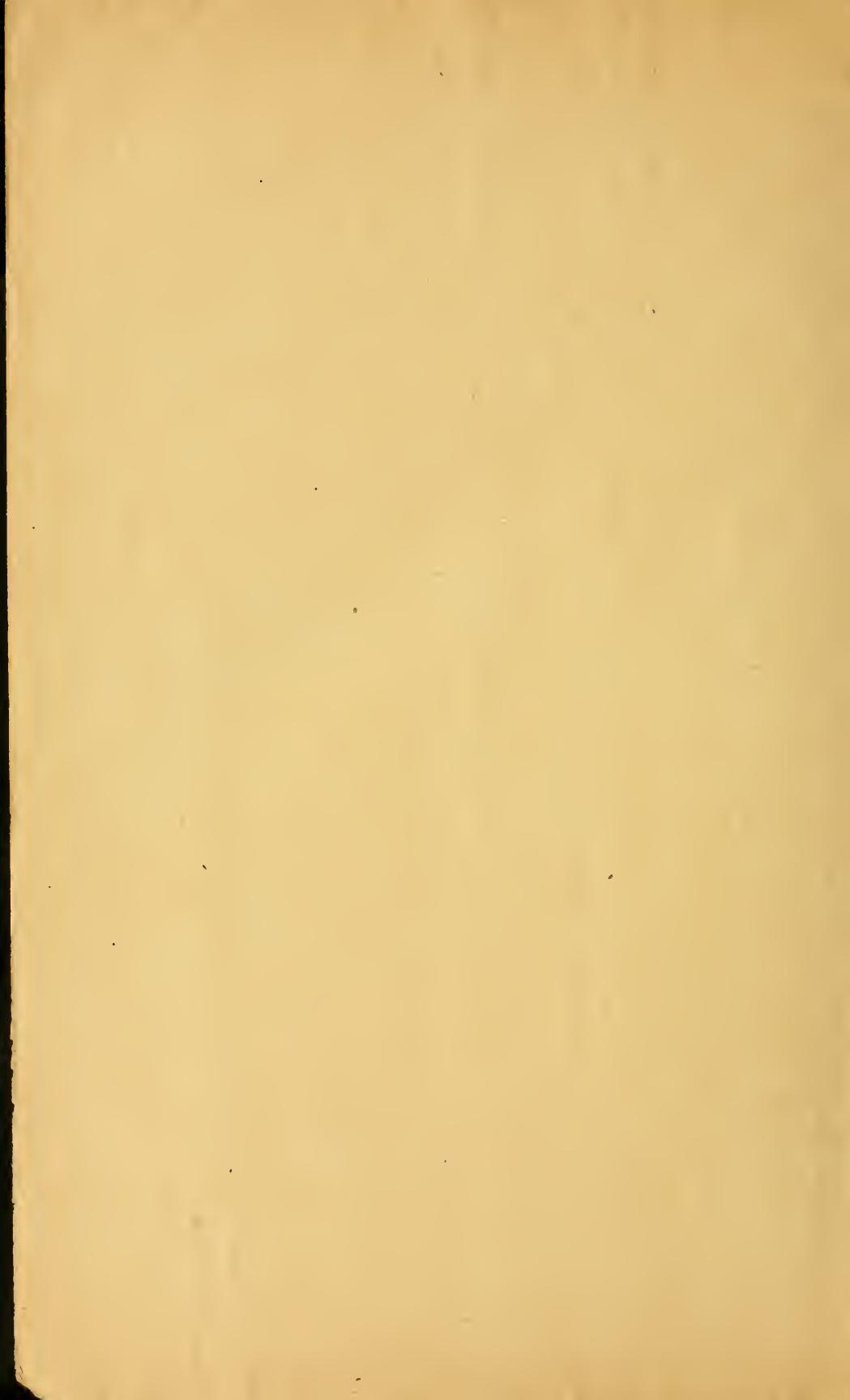
Liberty Baptist Church, Bullock County, Ala.,

October 6, 7, and 8, 1898.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE WILLIAMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moderator.
F. O. BICKLEY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Clerk.
B. T. ELEY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Treasurer.

The next session of the Association will be held with Fitzpatrick
Baptist Church, Bullock County, Ala., commencing on
Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1899.



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MINUTES.

THE CENTENNIAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened with Liberty church, Bullock county, in Twenty-Third Annual Session, at 11 o'clock a. m., Thursday, October 6th, 1898.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder G. W. Harrison, text, Matt. 25:14: "For the Kingdom of Heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants and delivered unto them his goods." Theme, "Work for the Master."

EVENING SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, George Williams. After singing, Rev. J. A. Jenkins led in prayer.

Rev. J. A. Jenkins was chosen as temporary clerk. The Constitution was then read by the Moderator. The letters from the churches were handed in and read by Elder B. Broome and F. O. Bickley. The names of the messengers were enrolled as follows:

Aberfoil—J. A. Beverly, D. W. Phelps, and T. J. King

Fairview—Elder B. Broome and John Foreman.

Fitzpatrick—W. C. Hufham.

Greenwood—G. W. Davis.

Hardaway—C. A. Davis and J. D. Brooks.

Indian Creek—E. M. Thomas, J. S. Finlayson, S. J. Ming, and T. E. Cope.

Loftin—W. C. Dozier, C. Brabham, and H. F. Traywick.

Liberty—M. F. McLendon, T. J. Bates, E. C. Grider, John Waters, and W. A. Powell.

Macedonia—W. A. C. May, J. L. Brooks, P. F. Rotton, J. H. Cockeroff, and W. B. Tamplin.

Midway—J. P. Downing.

Mt. Carmel—J. E. Jenkins, J. P. Rotton, and J. E. Wilson.

Mt. Zion—V. H. Tillery, W. B. Grider, James Bates, F. M. Grider, and J. Head.

Perote—Elder G. W. Harrison, E. W. Starke, J. P. Davis, and F. O. Bickley.

Sardis—J. F. Martin and F. Reese.

Union Springs—Elder A. P. Pugh, Geo. Williams, and T. M. Gholston.

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The present Moderator and Treasurer were re-elected, viz: Geo. Williams, Moderator; and B. T. Eley, Treasurer; and F. O. Bickley was elected permanent Clerk.

The names of correspondents and agents were enrolled as follows: Montgomery Association—Elder A. F. Dix.

Eufaula Association—Elder H. R. Schram, Agent for Alabama Baptist and Foreign Mission Journal; W. C. Jordan, and J. W. Kendrick.

Carey Association—Elder J. K. Jenkins and Elder A. J. Preston, Evangelist for Southeast Alabama.

The Executive Committee reported that there had been nothing before them during the year.

On motion a Committee on Ministerial Education was appointed to prepare and submit a report at this session of the Association. Also, that in future this shall be a standing committee in this Association. The following brethren were appointed, viz: Elder B. Broome, J. F. Martin, and J. D. Brooks.

On motion the reports on Missions will be discussed jointly.

None of the Committee on Education being present, the Moderator appointed Bro. J. P. Downing to prepare that report.

The report on Religious Literature was read, and after being ably discussed was adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We, your Committee on Religious Literature, beg leave to make the following report: Believing as we do, that religious literature apart from the Bible, stands second only to the ministry in shaping the mind and fixing the destiny of the people for future life, we urge the question, What kind of literature should be in our homes? We favor the Alabama Baptist and Foreign Missionary Journal, as being great factors in the various undertakings of our denomination and valuable instructors as to their progress. Having an immeasurable store of literature to select from, we recommend that parents, especially, should be very careful as to what kind of literature should fall into the hands of their children, and see that it is in accordance with the Word of God.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. BEVERLY, Chmn.

The report on Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Families was read and adopted, and a collection was taken for Bro. Crawley's family.

REPORT ON DECEASED, AGED, AND INFIRM MINISTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Committee on Deceased, Aged, and Infirm Ministers and their Families, beg leave to submit the following report: Since the last session of this body, the Angel of Death has visited the home of our beloved brother, Rev. C. Crawley, and has called him hence to enter into the joys of the Lord whom he faithfully served while in our midst. Bro. Crawley had just entered his seven-

ty-sixth year. This sad event occurred September 9th, 1898. This beloved brother whom we have lost has been a faithful servant of God in this Association a number of years. He labored also within the bounds of the Eufaula Association. Bro. Crawley leaves a wife and two small children to mourn his loss. It is the opinion of your committee that they are in need of assistance. We also recommend to your body that you donate something to supply their needs. Your committee will also state that our aged brother, Rev. M. N. Eley; is yet with us, but the committee is very sorry to report that he is not enjoying very good health. Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HARRISON, Chmn.

FRIDAY—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. J. P. Downing.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and adopted.

Rev. John W. Stewart came in and was cordially received as a representative of the Orphans' Home.

The Moderator appointed a committee on Religious Exercises as follows: J. D. Brooks and Pastor and delegates of Liberty church.

The Moderator appointed special committees as follows:

On Finance—T. M. Gholston, T. J. Bates, and J. E. Jenkins.

On Documents—J. A. Jenkins, J. P. Davis, and J. A. Beverly.

On Auditing—W. A. Powell, W. A. C. May, and E. M. Thomas.

On Nominations—M. F. McLendon, W. C. Dozier, and J. P. Rotton.

The report on the Orphans' Home was read, freely discussed, and adopted.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

We, your committee appointed to report on the Orphans' Home, beg leave to report the following: The Baptist Widows' and Orphans' Home of Alabama, was temporarily established at Evergreen, March 10, 1893, in a small rented house under the management of the present Financial Secretary, J. W. Stewart. Afterwards, Evergreen was chosen as a permanent location, and property purchased, consisting of 80 acres of land. The buildings were a ten-room brick house and three tenant houses. The purchase price was \$5,000, which was promptly paid. Important improvements have recently been added, by which there is another brick house of eleven rooms and all the former house thoroughly renovated and much improved. Adequate water works and a complete system of sanitation. These improvements cost about \$3,500, which has not all been paid, with some due on the current expenses of the last year. There are now about 55 children in the home. The health record is very good. There has been but one death. The children that are old enough, attend the Agricultural School. The small ones are taught at home. The boys are trained to do farm work and attend to stock. The girls are train-

ed to do all kinds of house work. All regularly attend Sunday school and church. A large per cent. of them are members of the church. So we find that the children not only have a home to protect them and keep them from want until they can provide for themselves, but they are provided with a home where they are trained mentally, physically, and spiritually for the journey of life that is before them, and a foundation laid in their young hearts upon which they may in after years build great characters. This home is the property of the great Baptist family of Alabama, and they have cause to be proud of it. Each association, church, and individual Baptist in the State should vie with each other as to who shall do the most to maintain this, their deserving institution. It is desired that on the 20th of this month, this new property be dedicated and offered to the Lord, free of debt. From the information we gather, we report the management of the home first-class throughout.

C. A. DAVIS, Chmn.
GEORGE CARLISLE
JOHN FOREMAN.

The Committee on Religious Exercises report that Elder A. P. Pugh will preach to-day, Elder J. W. Stewart to-night, and Elder A. F. Dix to-morrow.

The hour for preaching having arrived the Association took a recess, after which Rev. A. P. Pugh preached; text, 1 Timothy 3:15, at the conclusion of which a collection was taken for the Orphans' Home, amounting to \$7.36 in cash, and pledges taken as follows: Aberfoil church \$2.50; Fairview \$5; Fitzpatrick —; Greenwood —; Hardaway \$5; Liberty \$5; Loflin \$2.50; Macedonia \$5; Mt. Carmel \$5; Mt. Zion \$2.50; Perote \$5; Sardis \$5; Union Springs \$10; Indian Creek \$2.50; S. J. Ming \$2; Midway \$2.50; Elder B. Broome \$2.50. Total \$62.00.

EVENING SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. A. J. Preston.

On motion a committee of three was appointed to prepare and read a report on Obituaries, as follows: Elder G. W. Harrison, C. A. Davis and J. F. Martin.

The report on Temperance was read, feelingly discussed, and adopted, and on motion the Clerk was instructed to send a copy to the Alabama Baptist and request its publication.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee rejoice to report a higher (tone) sentiment among the churches upon the temperance question. Within the past few years, education on this line, with faithful warning upon the part of the ministry, has done much in elevating the temperance sentiment and establishing a higher Christian standard of duty regarding this great moral evil. The true follower of Christ has been made to

realize that his duty to his Lord and also to his fellow men, requires him not only to forsake every evil thing, but to strive to remove the evil from others by every legitimate means. Intemperance is not only a sin in itself, but the use of intoxicants as a beverage is the cause and fomenter of 93% of all the crimes brought before the courts of the country. With these facts before us, no Christian will hesitate to take a firm stand against the use, as a beverage, of every intoxicant. This is claimed to be the most enlightened and progressive Christian nation on the globe, and yet, while all Christians gave for the spread of the Gospel to other nations, the sum of \$5,000,000, for all church purposes \$150,000,000, for public education \$175,000,000, the sum of \$12,000,000,000 was spent in this American land to support this gigantic evil and propagator of crime; \$11,670,000,000 more to destroy than to save or benefit. 600,000 homes destroyed and 100,000 men, women and children murdered. Yet there are some who claim to follow Christ who say, "If I keep my own skirts clean, I am not accountable for the others." There is no agency within the Devil's reach so effective in degrading, bestializing and destroying the noble and beautiful in man, whether it be mentally, physically or spiritually, as the common use of alcholic stimulant as a "drink." It is the gateway to that "broad roadway that leads to death". It is "the father" to almost every other sin and curse—theft, murder, lasciviousness and debauchery. It maddens the heart and brain, nerves the hand of the assassin and firebug, it fires the passions to hatred and brutality, it opens the door of lasciviousness and debauchery, it robs purity of its mantle and shield, and strikes down every barrier to crime. We are to temperate our desires, appetites, passions and tongues according to the commands and pattern of our Master. Seeking to so live that our words and actions shall reflect the light of the spirit of Christ that is born in us. Everything that is in violation of the highest type of virtue, honesty, trust and justice is "intemperate" whether affecting ourselves or others. The purpose of these "reports" is to learn from the churches what is the status of each as regards this sin. Have your members, male and female, such proper regard for the honor and success of God's cause and the welfare of their fellow men as to withhold themselves from the improper use of stimulants? And to strive with all honesty to restrain others? Has your church such a high standard of temperance influence, as to cause the intemperate to stand ashamed of their presence? The fight is on. Satan finds no stronger weapon to use against the church of God and his children than strong drink. We are glad to report that what we learn through the delegates, that while there may be, here and there, one who still yields him or herself captive to monster sin, a higher standard has been built up and a cleaner life demanded. No man is considered worthy of being called a true freeman through Christ, who

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yields himself a slave to alcohol in any of its forms.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. BROOKS, Chairman.

M. B. GILMOR,

W. R. KING.

Adjourned, with benediction by Elder J. K. Jenkins.

At 7:30 p. m. sermon by Elder Stewart. Text, Ps. 16:5.

SATURDAY—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Devotional exercises conducted by Elder A. P. Pugh.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and adopted.

Elder G. W. Harrison was recognized as a representative of the "Sermonizer", and Institute work.

On motion a special committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressing the high esteem held by this Association for our former Clerk, Brother F. E. Tompkins, consisting of T. M. Gholston, J. A. Jenkins and T. M. Hough.

On motion a committee was appointed on Institute Work, to-wit: Elders G. W. Harrison, B. Broome and J. A. Jenkins.

On motion the Association ordered that a copy of our Constitution be printed in our Minutes.

The report on Education was read, ably discussed and adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education would respectfully report: That the nature of Christian truth, and the methods of propagation appointed by its Author, are such as to demand intelligence and culture both in those who communicate and in those who receive. Unto this end educational institutions are demanded, of which the most essential are the home, the church and the school. In God's good providence, these three means of culture are afforded to the families of men in the order named, which is also the order of their importance. If the home had always remained as originally instituted no church or school would ever have been needful. Therefore even under the marring of sin, all schools designed for the education of God's children should be held in close relationship to those original institutions of culture—the church and the home.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. DOWNING, Com.

The Reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were thoroughly discussed and finally adopted.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The position of the State Board of Missions in our system of missionary work is by few of the Baptists of Alabama correctly estimated. The object of this report will be to place before this body a plain statement of the objects for which the Board was created and

to strive thereby to awaken a deeper interest in its work. (1.) To the State Board is committed all the interests of missions in Alabama, including the interest of the Home Mission Board at Atlanta, and the Foreign Mission Board at Richmond. The employees of the State Board are careful to look after these several phases of missions, realizing that distinctions between them are only in name, each having in view the same grand purpose, viz.: the extension of the Master's kingdom among men in obedience to His command. Your committee deem it important that the fact that the State Board has in hand all these interests of missions, be clearly set forth, for a contribution to the State Board is indirectly a contribution to the support of the Home and Foreign Boards. Attention is called to the evident fact that the prosperity of every phase of missionary work depends upon the prosperity of the State Board. If its policies are vigorously sustained, good results will be seen in every department of the work. Each consecrated man put on the field in Alabama, whether as evangelist, Missionary pastor, or colporter, adds to the number who have at heart every interest of the Master's kingdom. (2.) The State Board is engaged in the following special lines of work: First—Evangelical. This means the employment of consecrated men to travel and preach among the churches, striving to awaken a deeper interest in the cause of missions at home and abroad, as well as visiting destitute regions and preaching to the lost the peerless Gospel of the blessed God. Of these men there are at present under the employment of the Board, Brothers A. J. Preston in S. E. Alabama, W. A. Parker, Sr., in S. W., J. W. Sandlin in the N. E., and Jos. Shackelford in the Northern part of the State. The importance of this work can be better appreciated when we remember that out of the 120 thousand white Baptists in Alabama not more than 12 thousand are making contributions to missions. To add to the number of regular contributors to the cause is greatly to be desired and must be done if we hope to enlarge the work. Second—Missionary Pastoral Work. This work consists in helping to support pastors at important points that give promise of soon growing into self-sustaining churches. Beyond question the brightest page in the history of the State Board is that page that gives record of the work done in this department of labor. There are more than a score of churches that are now strong and self-supporting, that in their early history were supported by the Board. But while it is true that a grand work has been done, "there remaineth yet much land to be possessed." Many destitute fields are sounding the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us", but lack of means prevent the Board from responding favorably. It is proper to say in this connection that the Secretary of the Board gives much of his time to missionary and evangelistic work. From these very brief statements we can gather some idea of the important work that is being done by our Board of Missions. That this work commends itself to our hearty sympathy and support is a most evident proposi-

tion. Just at this time your committee is in position to know that the Board is sadly in need of funds. The Secretary is struggling to pay the indebtedness of the Board to its employees. Some of these have not been paid in the last year. Your committee speaks with authority when it assures this Association that the State Board of Missions was never in so pressing need of help as now and we would urge the churches that in the very near future they make a special contribution to this work. Summary of work for last Conventional Year:

Number of men employed	17
Days of service	3536
Miles traveled	23747
Sermons delivered	1831
Addresses delivered	533
Churches constituted	5
Persons baptized	335
Sunday schools organized	8
Ladies' Missionary Societies organized	4
Prayer Meetings held	246
Number of churches visited	683
Subscriptions to denominational papers	322
Page of tracts distributed	40000
Money collected for all Missions by Missionaries	\$4449.17
Money collected for Orphanage	\$ 228.81
Bibles given away	150

Faithfully submitted,

T. M. THOMAS, Ch'm. Com.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your committee appointed to report on Home Missions, beg leave to make the following report: The word home is dear to every heart, and while it is dear to every heart, when it comes to Home Missions the word is misleading, and people, when you speak of Home Missions, think that you mean the Missions around their door in their Association, the helping of the weak churches in their midst, and some take it to mean the distribution of charity to the poor, but this is not Home Missions. So what is Home Missions? and where is the Board located? and where is it working? Home Missions is that mission that reaches out and helps other states to do mission work. The board is located at Atlanta, Ga., and has Dr. I. T. Tichenor as its corresponding secretary. This Home Mission Board is working in different States. In Missouri it is doing a noble work among the Germans. It works in the mountain regions of each state. It has Missionaries in the Indian Territory and has done a noble work in Cuba. This work in Cuba was discontinued for a while, but this work will be resumed again. The Home Board have sent Missionaries to Santiago. The Home Board reports the following work done:

Missionaries.....	467
Weeks of labor.....	11407
Churches and Stations.....	1960
Sermons and addresses.....	49306
Prayer meetings.....	10359
Religious visits.....	59841
Baptism.....	4739
Received by letter.....	4770
Total additions.....	9509
Churches constituted.....	103
Houses of worship built.....	45
Houses of worship improved.....	68
Amount expended on houses of worship.....	\$59629
Sunday schools organized.....	297
Teachers and pupils.....	7710
Bibles and Testaments.....	4668
Tracts distributed (pages).....	1580741

The State Boards of Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma Territory, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western Arkansas, and Western North Carolina, are in co-operation with the Home Board, in part or whole, so you see the Home Mission Board covers a wide territory, and much work remains for this Board to do. The Board says, "Among the important points where vigorous efforts should be made to bring our cause to the front are, Baltimore, Washington, St. Louis and New Orleans. These are all great centers of wealth and material power. Baltimore is the port which receives a larger immigration than any other, with the single exception of New York. It is a city of great wealth, and rapidly increasing both in trade and population. It will probably long remain the greatest importing and exporting city within the territory of this Convention." Washington, St. Louis, and New Orleans could be written about at length. As to the needs of Home Missions and the benefits accruing from helping to preach our doctrines of religious liberty, which is the only contribution American Statesmanship has made to the science of government, for which our Baptist people in centuries past have suffered and died, ought to be made prominent in Washington and all other places. We therefore recommend that each church take collections for this work and send to State Board of Missions, Montgomery, Ala., to Corresponding Secretary. We recommend that the Home Field be circulated in the churches. It is monthly, costs 10c per copy, or 5c per copy in clubs of 50. So, as much has been done, much more can be done, so pray for the Home Board, and pay to the Home Mission cause. Many of our Baptists in Cuba are starving, and need immediate relief, and

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so the Home Board wants money to send to them, and the Churches ought, at once, to send a good contribution to the Home Board.

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. POWELL, Chmn.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Board report themselves free from debt and \$2,975.96 in the treasury. This is encouraging, when we consider the stringency of the times. The churches in our state, however, have averaged only 49c per member. This is to be regretted and means should be employed by which to correct this state of things. This can only be done by giving our churches information; missionary sermons, lectures, books and papers. The Foreign Mission Journal will be a valuable help, and we would not forget the education derived from weekly or monthly collections. Our Missionaries have baptized 701 during the past year. In 1891 we had 2,377 members and 361 baptisms. Since 1891 our Missionaries have baptised 4,122 professed believers. This number is much larger than the entire membership in 1891. Surely we have here great cause for gratitude, and great incitement for more vigorous effort. Much has been accomplished, but we are not yet doing what we might do. We have nearly two hundred workers (including Missionaries and native helpers) representing us on foreign fields. God, through them, is leading us on. Let us follow. Throughout our borders let earnest prayers go up to God that this year may be one in which His power and presence may be graciously manifested on us and in us for this great work.

E. A. BROOKS, Chmn.

On motion the Executive Committee is requested to employ a Colporter for this Association, if the state of our finances will justify it.

Adjourned for preaching.

At 11 o'clock, Doctrinal sermon by Rev. A. F. Dix; text, John 3:6-7. At the same hour Rev. A. J. Preston preached at the Arbor, after which a collection was taken for State Missions, amounting to \$8.32.

EVENING SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

After singing and prayer by Brother J. P. Rotton, the report on the State of the Churches and the Associational Field was read and adopted.

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONAL FIELD.

Your Committee on State of Churches and Associational Field,

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beg leave to make the following report: We believe that most of our churches are in a very good condition, both spiritually and financially. All the churches within the bounds of the Association have made arrangements to have preaching at least once a month. We think we have organizations enough on the field to reach the people, provided the Christian people will discharge faithfully their Christian duty.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. JENKINS, Chairman.

Report on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee appointed to report on Sunday Schools, beg leave to make the following report: The Sunday School is a very important factor in Christian work. The old and the young need to be trained in the teachings of the Bible, and the Sunday School is the place for this teaching. Here are the minds indoctrinated in the principles taught in God's word. So every church ought to have a Sunday School. Only six churches report Sunday Schools in this Association. We hope that all will have Sunday Schools.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. C. MAY, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Documents was read and adopted.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Documents beg leave to make the following report: The time has come in our history when our people must be posted as to our plans and objects. In order for this to be accomplished we must urge our people to read our literature. We would heartily recommend the Alabama Baptist, the Christian Index, the Texas Baptist Standard, and Western Recorder. For Sunday School literature every Baptist church in the south ought to send to Dr. Frost at Nashville, Tennessee. We would call especial attention to the minutes of the State Convention, and of the Southern Baptist Convention. They are official documents of the greatest importance, and should be carefully read by all who are interested in our work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. JENKINS, Chairman.

The Finance Committee submitted their report which was adopted.*

On motion Revs. A. F. Dix and A. J. Preston are requested to

* See Financial Exhibit in back of book.

furnish copies of their sermons for publication in the Alabama Baptist.

The Treasurer's Annual report was read and adopted.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

To Centennial Association:

Herewith I hand you my Eleventh Annual Report, showing all monies received and disbursed by me since my last report:

1897. DR.

Oct. 12.	To balance on hand as per last report..	\$ 3 51
18.	To cash from Geo. Williams, Moderator	107 47
20.	To cash from F. E. Tompkins, Clerk..	1 00

CR.	\$111 98
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Oct. 18.	By cash paid F. E. Tompkins, Clerk—V. 1.....	\$ 10 00
18.	By cash paid E. M. Brooks—V. 2.....	3 49
29.	By cash paid W. C. Bledsoe—V. 3.....	59 30

1898.

Feb. 14.	By cash paid Minutes and Exp.	17 30
Oct. 5.	By cash on hand.....	21 89

\$111 98

1898.

Oct. 5.	To balance on hand.....	\$21 89
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Respectfully submitted,

B. T. ELEY, Treasurer Centennial Association.

N. B.—The above amount is appropriated as follows:

Ministerial fund.....	\$ 8 10
Associational fund.....	13 79

\$21 89

The Committee on Nominations read their report which was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on Nominations report the following: 1. We recommend that this body hold its next session with Fitzpatrick Church, Bullock County, commencing on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, 1899. 2. That Elder A. P. Pugh preach the introductory sermon. 3. That Brothers T. M. Hough, Jas. Jones, T. B. Miles, E. A. Brooks, Rev. A. P. Pugh, M. B. B. Philips, Rev. B. Broome, W. C. Hufham, J. D. Brooks, and J. H. Cockeroff be the delegates to the Baptist State Convention. 4. That Elder A. P. Pugh be the delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, Elder B. Broome, Alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

M. F. McLENDON, Chmn.

The Executive Committee was then elected for the ensuing Associational year, to-wit: Elders M. N. Eley and A. P. Pugh, and Brothers Geo. Williams, B. T. Eley, F. O. Bickley, T. M. Gholston, J. E. Jenkins, J. L. Childs, and W. A. Powell.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

We, your committee appointed to report on obituaries, beg leave to make the following report: We find by examining the church letters that 10 have died during this year. We make special mention, first, of our faithful Clerk, F. E. Tompkins, who departed this life since our last meeting. He served this Association faithfully as its Clerk, many years, being present at nearly every meeting of this Association. He was a consecrated Christian, a good citizen, a faithful deacon of his Church, an earnest worker for the cause of Christ, a good neighbor, a loving father, and a devoted husband. His church, the community, and this Association have sustained a great loss by his removal. The next we mention is Brother H. S. Haynes, who died in September, who was at his death a deacon of the Union Springs Baptist church. He was an exemplary Christian and a faithful deacon. Also, on that bright and beautiful evening of September 14th, death came and called to his home Brother M. Ivey, of Perote Baptist church, who died a deacon of that church. He will be greatly missed by the church and community for he dearly loved his church and attended all of its services when it was possible for him to do so. He was ever ready to contribute of his means for his church and the cause at large. As a Sunday School Superintendent, he was hard to excel. And by his faithfulness we have every cause to believe that he has been the means in the hands of his blessed Master in bringing many precious souls to Christ. He always attended the meeting of this Association when it was possible for him to do so. A noble servant of God, a kind and affectionate husband and a loving father, has gone from earth to receive a crown that fadeth not away. While it was God's divine will to take these faithful soldiers from our midst, we should bow in humble submission to His will who doeth all things well.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HARRISON, Chmn. Com.

The Committee on Institute Work read their report, which was adopted.

REPORT ON INSTITUTE WORK.

We, your Committee appointed on Institute Work, beg leave to submit the following report: At the meeting of the State Convention at East Lake, last December, the Institute Work was separated from the State Board of Missions and a new Board of the Institute Work was appointed and located at Opelika, with Dr. G. S. Anderson

as Secretary of the Board, and W. E. Hudman as President. This Institute Work is organized for the purpose of benefitting the preachers on their fields who have not had the advantages of the schools to prepare them for work. They can, by this method, prepare themselves at home, by the correspondence course and attending Institutes held by this Board at different places in this state. The charges to preachers in Alabama is one dollar, out of the state is twelve dollars. This Board prints the "Sermonizer", which is very profitable to preachers, superintendents and teachers of Sunday schools, and any one else who will read it. It can be had for fifty cents a year, and comes monthly. This board holds Institutes wherever invited in this state. The Institute Work consists in lectures on sermon building by Dr. G. S. Anderson, and such other brethren that he can secure to lecture on different topics for the advancement of the preachers. We, therefore, recommend this Institute Work to this Association as an important work, as more than 850 of the 1000 white Baptist preachers in this state have not been reached by the schools. Sixty-six ministers have enrolled for the corresponding course and 2000 copies of the "Sermonizer" published monthly. The Board asks the denomination for \$2,000 with which to prosecute the work during the year. We, therefore, recommend that the churches of this Association contribute as liberally as possible to this work, as the Board is in great need of funds. Let each church take collection as early as possible and send it to Dr. G. S. Anderson at Auburn, Ala. The men who have taken this course have been greatly benefitted.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HARRISON, Chairman.

The Auditing Committee submitted their report and it was adopted.

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

We have carefully examined the finance and Treasurer's reports and recommend that they be received.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. POWELL, Chmn.

This Association return correspondents to the following Associations, to-wit: To the Eufaula—Revs. A. P. Pugh, G. W. Harrison, and J. A. Jenkins, and Brother S. J. Ming. To the New Providence—Rev. George W. Harrison.

On motion any brother attending any other Association is authorized to report himself as correspondent from this Association.

Report on Ministerial Education was read and adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We, your committee, on Ministerial Education beg to leave to submit the following report: Inasmuch as the proper understanding of the Bible is of vast importance in preaching the Gospel, and as we

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are given the injunction "Study to show thyself approved unto a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth", we, your committee, would recommend that our churches encourage and aid our young men in obtaining a thorough knowledge of God's work. We would commend our young men to Howard College in taking literary courses, which is located at East Lake, Ala., and to the Southern Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. We also ask this Association to remember its beneficiary, Brother Thomas M. Thomas, who is engaged in this important work, and who is now at Howard College.

B. BROOME, Chmn. Com.

On motion the delegates present are requested to try to raise in their respective churches, sufficient funds to support Bro. T. M. Thomas at Howard College. A cash collection was then taken up for his support, amounting to \$7.65, and the following pledges were taken to aid in his support the ensuing year, to-wit, Aberfoil Church \$2.00; Fairview \$1.00; Fitzpatrick \$5.00; Greenwood \$2.50; Hardaway \$5.00; Indian Creek \$5.00; Loflin \$5.00; Liberty \$5.00; Macedonia \$2.50; Midway —; Mt. Carmel \$5.00; Mt. Zion \$1.00 (paid); Perote \$5.00; Sardis \$2.50; Union Springs, \$20.00.

The committee appointed to draft resolutions relative to the death of Brother F. E. Tompkins, submitted the following, which was adopted:

RESOLUTIONS

Whereas, it has pleased God in his allwise providence to remove from our midst our well beloved brother, F. E. Tompkins, Clerk of this Association. We feel a very sad loss in his removal and feel that we have lost a very earnest, consecrated Christian worker in the cause, and a faithful worker in this Association and a model Clerk.

Resolved, That we bow in submission to the workings of our Heavenly Father. Our loss is his gain.

2nd. That we sympathize with his family in their sore bereavement.

3rd. That we send a copy of these resolutions to the family of our deceased Brother and that a copy be sent to the Alabama Baptist for publication, and that they be spread on the Minutes of this Association.

J. A. JENKINS, Chmn.

On motion it was ordered that the collection at the Arbor, tomorrow, will be used for the benefit of Brother T. M. Thomas.

On motion the Moderator appointed the same Committee on Institute Work for next year, viz: Elders G. W. Harrison and B. Broome, and Brother J. F. Martin.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be extended to

Liberty Church and community for the very kind and bounteous hospitality which they have extended us during this session.

On motion the body passed resolutions endorsing and adopting The South East Alabama Baptist Collegiate Institute, as follows:

Whereas, We, as a Missionary Baptist people, representing and constituting the Centennial Association, fully realizing the great importance of the proper education of the children of our country; and,

Whereas, We, believing it to be proper and right, when practicable, to educate our children in schools and institutions of learning under the auspices of the Missionary Baptist denomination; and,

Whereas, We, having ascertained it to be a fact that The Southeast Alabama Baptist Collegiate Institute has been located at Newton, Dale county, Alabama, is now in session with bright prospects, under a Board of Trustees composed of Missionary Baptists, and being taught by an efficient faculty composed of Missionary Baptists, to be under the auspices of the Baptist denomination of Southeast Alabama; and said school having heretofore, by a resolution of like kind, been endorsed and adopted by the Judson Association and the Newton Baptist Association: Therefore, be it

Resolved, 1st, That The Centennial Association, through the Messengers composing the same, indorse said school, and adopt the same as The Missionary Baptist School of Southeast Alabama, with all of its intents and purposes, as exhibited by its constitution.

2nd, That this Association, during its present session, appoint a Trustee, or Trustees, for said school, and he, or they, be hereby authorized to co-operate with the Board of Trustees for said school; and that we herein and hereby recommend that the Missionary Baptist denomination of Southeast Alabama adopt and patronize said school.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees, to-wit:

On State Missions—J. A. Jenkins, James Yates, H. S. Kirby.

On Home Missions—J. D. Brooks, J. E. Jenkins, G. F. Carlisle.

On Foreign Missions—A. P. Pugh, T. M. Hough, E. M. Thomas.

On Education—D. G. Jones, R. L. Prince, J. H. Cockcroft.

On Religious Literature—C. A. Davis, W. L. O'Neil, P. F. Rotton.

On Deceased, Aged, and Infirm Ministers and Their Families,—E. A. Brooks, M. J. Smith, H. J. McGilvray.

On Sunday Schools—W. C. Hufham, S. P. Rainer, J. H. Coggdell

On the State of the Churches and the Associational Field—J. P. Downing, J. S. Finlayson, M. F. McLendon.

On Temperance—D. A. Caylor, W. D. Goins, J. M. Boyd.

On Orphans' Home—J. A. Beverly, G. W. Davis, Jas. Bates, Jr.

On Ministerial Education—B. Broome, T. J. Bates, Gholston Yates.

On Institute Work—G. W. Harrison, J. F. Martin, Jas. Jones.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. N. Eley, Union Springs.
J. O. Hixson, Union Springs.
A. P. Pugh, Union Springs.
G. W. Harrison, Perote.
B. Broome, Pickett.
J. A. Jenkins, Mt. Hilliard.
J. W. Dossett, at Seminary.
T. M. Thomas (Licentiate), Howard College.

The body adjourned to meet with Fitzpatrick Church, Bullock County, on Thursday before the Second Sunday in October, 1899.

F. O. BICKLEY,
Clerk.

GEORGE WILLIAMS,
Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1.—NAME.—This body shall be known as the CENTENNIAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2—PURPOSE.—Its purpose shall be: First, the development of the Church in constituting the body and the building up of the cause of the Master within its bounds; Second, the furtherance of the objects aimed at in the organization of the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

ART. 3.—MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of this Association shall consist of delegates as follows: Each church five delegates, and one additional for every twenty-five or fraction of twenty-five over one hundred members.

ART. 4.—ADVISORY.—We hereby deny the right of this or any other body to interfere with the government of any church, claiming for ourselves only the right to advise churches in regard to our common interests.

ART. 5.—OFFICERS.—At each annual session the Association shall elect from their body, by ballot, a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall hold their respective offices until their successors are chosen. **Majority**—In making choice of these officers a majority of the votes present shall be necessary to an election. **Highest Two**—Should no individual voted for receive a majority on the first ballot, a choice shall be made from the two having the highest number of votes.

ART. 6.—MODERATOR.—The Moderator shall preside over the body; shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise directed; decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the body, and discharge such duties and be invested with such authority and privileges as belong appropriately to his office, according to Mell's Parliamentary Practice.

ART. 7.—CLERK.—The Clerk shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Association, procure the printing and the distribution of the **MINUTES**.

ART. 8.—TREASURER.—The Treasurer shall take charge of the moneys and properties of the Association, and report in writing at each annual session of the body the state of the finances, his receipts and disbursements during the Associational year just closed, exhibiting his vouchers for the same, and at the expiration of his term of office deliver to his successor the unexpended funds and property belonging to the Association.

ART. 9.—STANDING COMMITTEES.—There shall be Standing Com-

mittees who shall report in writing at the next meeting after appointment, on the following subjects, viz.: 1. On the State of the Churches and the Associational Field. 2. On State Missions. 3. On Home Missions. 4. On Foreign Missions. 5. On Education. 6. On Religious Literature. 7. On Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Families.

Note—Another Standing Committee was added at this session of the Association, viz: On Ministerial Education. (See Minutes.)

ART. 10.—APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP—Churches applying for membership in this body on presentation of letter and delegates elected according to this Constitution, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received, the Moderator extending the hand of fellowship.

ART. 11.—LETTER—Each church represented in this body is expected to send annually a letter setting forth the general state of its religious life, and as minute statistics of its work as possible.

ART. 12.—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—The Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer of the Association, together with six brethren elected annually by the body, shall constitute an Executive Committee (five of whom shall constitute a quorum), authorized to fill vacancies occurring in their body, and to transact any business of the Association during the recess thereof.

ART. 13.—MINUTES—The MINUTES of the Association, at each session, shall be read and approved, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association finally adjourns.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF CENTENNIAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1898

Value of Property ..		\$ 10 70		\$ 350 00	
Total		\$ 10 70		\$ 350 00	
Poor, Fuel, Sunday Schools, Etc		\$ 5 50		\$ 300 00	
Repairs and New Buildings.....		\$ 15 00		\$ 1000 00	
Pastor's Salary.....		\$ 92 75		\$ 600 00	
Minutes		\$ 40 00		\$ 400 00	
Orphans' Home—Voucher		\$ 71 50		\$ 600 00	
Orphans' Home—Cash		\$ 173 70		\$ 173 70	
College Buildings—Voucher		\$ 87 35		\$ 600 00	
Ministerial Education—Voucher		\$ 18 30		\$ 13 21	
Ministerial Education—Cash		\$ 500 00		\$ 500 00	
Bible and Colportage—Voucher		\$ 27 95		\$ 1000 00	
Associational Purposes—Cash		\$ 1 00		\$ 1 00	
Foreign Missions—Voucher		\$ 17 12		\$ 17 12	
Foreign Mis.—Cash		\$ 20 50		\$ 20 50	
Home Mis.—Voucher		\$ 1185 99		\$ 1185 99	
Home Mis.—Cash		\$ 102 05		\$ 102 05	
State Missions—Voucher		\$ 145 66		\$ 145 66	
State Mission—Cash		\$ 294 05		\$ 294 05	
CHURCHES		\$ 1167 00		\$ 1167 00	
Albertoli		\$ 81 55		\$ 81 55	
Fairview		\$ 1 50		\$ 1 50	
Fitzpatrick		\$ 6 00		\$ 6 00	
Greenwood		\$ 1 25		\$ 1 25	
Hardaway		\$ 10 00		\$ 10 00	
Indian Creek		\$ 4 00		\$ 4 00	
Ladine		\$ 1 60		\$ 1 60	
Liberty		\$ 2 40		\$ 2 40	
Macedonia		\$ 5 30		\$ 5 30	
Midway		\$ 1 00		\$ 1 00	
Mt. Carmel		\$ 10 98		\$ 10 98	
Mt. Zion		\$ 3 00		\$ 3 00	
Perote		\$ 4 80		\$ 4 80	
Sardis		\$ 1 00		\$ 1 00	
Union Springs		\$ 5 00		\$ 5 00	
Sunday Sch.		\$ 29 70		\$ 29 70	
Total		\$ 7 67		\$ 817 77	
General Collection for Brothom, Greenfield, and Co.		\$ 8 12 15		\$ 8 12 15	
Poor, Fuel, Sunday Schools, Etc		\$ 16 24 50		\$ 16 24 50	
Repairs and New Buildings.....		\$ 37 20 88		\$ 37 20 88	
Pastor's Salary.....		\$ 8 00		\$ 8 00	
Minutes		\$ 18 00		\$ 18 00	
Orphans' Home—Voucher		\$ 55 85		\$ 55 85	
Orphans' Home—Cash		\$ 5 40		\$ 5 40	
College Buildings—Voucher		\$ 12 30		\$ 12 30	
Ministerial Education—Voucher		\$ 20 25		\$ 20 25	
Ministerial Education—Cash		\$ 900 00		\$ 900 00	
Bible and Colportage—Voucher		\$ 120 00		\$ 120 00	
Associational Purposes—Cash		\$ 39 15		\$ 39 15	
Foreign Miss.—Cash		\$ 102 05		\$ 102 05	
Home Mis.—Voucher		\$ 13 91		\$ 13 91	
Home Mis.—Cash		\$ 145 66		\$ 145 66	
State Missions—Voucher		\$ 294 05		\$ 294 05	
State Mission—Cash		\$ 1167 00		\$ 1167 00	

STATISTICS OF CENTENNIAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1898.

UNION SPRINGS, ALA.:
HERALD PRINT.
1898.